



RICHARD F. ALLEN
COMMISSIONER

Re-Entry Update

ADOC Mission Statement

The mission of the Alabama Department of Corrections is to confine, manage and provide rehabilitative programs for convicted felons in a safe, secure and humane environment, utilizing professionals who are committed to public safety and to the positive re-entry of offenders into society.



"The Reentry Update"

The content's of this newsletter is intended to communicate information about re-entry and transitional services available in the community. Information is provided to assist inmates in learning about resources and programs available throughout Alabama. The newsletter will feature information about halfway houses, transitional program's, services offered through State agencies, community/social service agencies and faith based programs. If you would like to submit newsworthy information that can increase the awareness of re-entry and transitional services – please send this information to:

Elana M. Parker
Re-Entry Coordinator
Elana.parker@doc.alabama.gov

Information can also be faxed to:
(334)353-3967

****Article submissions are welcomed****

M A Y 2008

"Bridging the Gap from Corrections to the Community" *Re-Entry and Transitional Services Available for Soon To Be Released Offenders*

During the month of April, thirty-five Alabama Department of Corrections staff participated in a series of ongoing training's on implementing Re-Entry and Transitional Services to inmates who are soon to be released back into the community. Information was provided on the institutional Pre Release Programs, Accessing State Agency and Community Resources, Applying to Halfway Houses and Transitional Programs and Providing Referral Linkages to Employment and Career Resources. ***For additional information on how to access these resources please contact the "Institutional Re-Entry Designee".*** The names of the Institutional Designee's are provided on page 2 of this newsletter.

"Halfway Houses participate in Panel Discussion"

On Thursday, April 17, 2008, representatives from seven halfway houses participated in a panel discussion on reentry and transitional services. The panel discussion was a component of the ongoing Re-Entry trainings held at the Criminal Justice Center in Montgomery. Information was provided on eligibility criteria, the application process, program fees, termination procedure, guidelines for participation, program services and community partnerships. If you are within 60 days of your release or EOS date and would like to obtain additional information on these programs, please contact your Institutional Re-Entry Designee.

Hope House (males), Tuscaloosa – *Hope Holeman*

New Life Women's Center (females), Gadsden – *Daphne Stewart*

The Dannon Project (males and females), Birmingham – *Kerri Prewitt*

The Lovelady Center (females), Birmingham – *Lindsey Lee*

The WINNERS Program (females) – Mobile – *Lisa Brown*

Renaissance House (males) – Montgomery – *Dana Dunklin*

Salvation Army (males and females) – Montgomery – *Dorothy Coker*

Social Security Administration – "Separating the Myths from the Facts"

What special programs are available for ex-offenders? **Social security does not provide any benefits that are just specific to ex-offenders.** Once you are released, you can get Supplemental Security Income payments if you are 65 or older, or are blind or have a medically documented disability and have little to no income or resources.

****The Social Security Office, Welfare Department or State Rehabilitation Office does not provide any special benefits to ex-offenders unless monies were previously paid into the system while gainfully employed prior to incarceration.**

"Meet Your Institutional Re-Entry Designee's"

For more information on Re-Entry and Transitional Services, please contact your respective Institutional / Work Release Designee.



Institutions	Work Release Centers and Community Work Centers
<i>Ms. Pearson and Mr. Earnshaw– Fountain / J.O. Davis</i> <i>Ms. Wilson – Easterling</i> <i>Mr. Woods – Ventress</i> <i>Ms Perry and Ms. Wilson – Bullock County</i> <i>Dr. Thompkins– Draper</i> <i>Ms. McQueen and Mr. Thomas - Elmore</i> <i>Ms. Haynes– Tutwiler</i> <i>Mr. Holbrook – Holman</i> <i>Mr. Bivins – Staton</i> <i>Ms. Day– Hamilton A&I and Hamilton Work Release</i> <i>Dr. Allen and Mr. Rountree - Donaldson</i> <i>Ms. Richardson – Bibb County</i> <i>Ms. Brock – Limestone</i> <i>Mr. Gandy – Kilby</i> <i>Ms. Crenshaw– Montgomery Women's Facility</i> <i>Mr. Douglas - St. Clair</i>	<i>Lt. Sellars – Camden</i> <i>Mr. Shavers – Mobile</i> <i>Mr. Robitaille – Loxley</i> <i>Ms. Martin and Ms. Crawford – Frank Lee</i> <i>Ms. Phillips – Alex City</i> <i>Ms. Moore – Birmingham</i> <i>Mr. Cummings – Decatur</i> <i>Sgt. Strickland/Lt. Qualls – Elba</i> <i>Ms. Hand– Childersburg Work Release</i> <i>Ms. Bennett / Ms. Nettles – Atmore</i> <i>Ms. Allen – State Cattle Ranch</i>

**Ready for Your Next Lifetime?**

By: Vickie Locke, Project Director

Are you a candidate for parole? Are you close to EOS? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then we have a few more questions. What plans have you made for your life after leaving this facility? Where will you live? Where will you work? How will you find the help you need to successfully establish a new life outside these walls? These are tough, but necessary questions. If your goal is to make this your last stay in a correctional facility, these questions need answers.

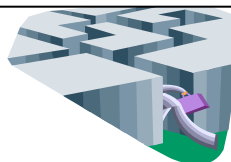
To help with these answers, there is a lot of work underway. DOC's Re-Entry Program is rolling out activities focused on Pre-Release and Reentry programs. These programs are designed to give you information and support to allow you to help yourself succeed on the outside. This is an excellent effort—you'll get much more information about it in future newsletters.

Helping you prepare for life on the outside is important—very important. So important, that Governor Riley has called for action to be taken to get the community involved in helping you get a good start. He has established the Alabama Community Partnership for Recovery and Reentry—the CPR Network.

The Governor is asking community groups—especially churches and businesses—to get together and plan ways to make support services available to ex-offenders who are returning to their communities. Governor Riley will meet with church and community leaders across the state on May 20, 2008 to discuss ways the community can help you create a better, more productive life for yourself and your family once you are released. No one wants to see you return to a correctional facility.

Yes, this is a big job—it won't be done overnight. It takes a lot of work on the part of the community, state government, churches and businesses to create ways to get you the help you need. This is a new program and we may not get everything right in the beginning. But we hope we can count on you to tell us when we need to make changes to the program. Keep in mind, you play a critical role in all of this. You will need to think seriously about what you believe you need in order to be successful outside this facility. The, you can share that information with DOC's Pre-Release Coordinator when requested. Of course, when released, you will be expected to be committed to your success.

Expect to hear more about the CPR Network in the coming weeks.

**"New Beginnings Foundation, Inc."**

By: Ken Brothers

New Beginning Foundation is helping reentry efforts through a comprehensive reentry program called "Pathway to Freedom" or PTF. Its first component is a two year, Christ-centered in-prison program for those men and women who are within five years of potential release. It provides a Christ-centered spiritual foundation as well as life and job readiness skills in its curriculum. Upon completion of the program, PTF helps connect its graduates to community and faith-based resources upon their release through the Alabama Reentry Referral Database. It currently lists 160 organizations, churches, businesses, etc. that can provide reentry resources across the state.

For more information on the "Pathway to Freedom" program, its curriculum or the Alabama Reentry Referral Database, you can write to us at the following address:
 New Beginnings Foundation, Inc., 305 S. Perry St.,
 Montgomery, AL 36104-4233.

For those of you who have family members on the outside with access to the worldwide web, they can look at the Alabama Reentry Referral Database at www.nbfi.org by clicking on the "RJC Alabama" link on the left side. Curriculum information is also available by clicking on the link on the left for either "Men's Curriculum" or "Women's Curriculum." Your family members are also welcome to give us a call at 334-261-3318 or by e-mail at

partners@nbfi.org.
